

Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for protecting a computing device from potentially harmful code in a document, the method comprising:
 - receiving a data structure representation of the document;
 - providing one or more definitions of potentially harmful active content in an editable ~~text~~ configuration file, each definition identifying potentially harmful active content and specifying an action to be performed on that potentially harmful active content if that potentially harmful active content is found in the document;
 - parsing the editable configuration file to generate a data structure representation of the one or more definitions in the editable configuration file;
 - comparing the data structure representation of the document with the data structure representation of the one or more definitions of potentially harmful active content ~~each definition of potentially harmful active content in the editable text file~~ to identify potentially harmful active content within the document; and
 - modifying the document to render harmless any identified potentially harmful active content before presenting the document to the computing device.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising syntactically examining the document and placing the document in a valid form before comparing the document with each definition.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising transmitting the modified document to the computing device over a network after the potentially harmful active content is rendered harmless.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 3, wherein each definition is listed in the ~~text~~ configuration file in a same language structure and schema as the document.

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 3, further comprising mapping each definition in the ~~text~~ configuration file into a same language and schema as the document.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, ~~further comprising representing wherein the data structure representation of the document as is~~ a first document object model (DOM) tree and wherein the data structure representation of the one or more definitions in the ~~text~~ configuration file as is a second DOM tree.

7. – 22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the editable ~~text~~ configuration file is an XML (extensible markup language) file.

24. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein one or more of the definitions of potentially harmful active content identifies potentially harmful active content ~~that may be present~~ at a level of a tag in the document.

25. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein one or more of the definitions of potentially harmful active content identifies potentially harmful active content ~~that may be present~~ at a level of an attribute in the document.

26. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein one or more of the definitions of potentially harmful active content identifies potentially

3 harmful active content ~~that may be present~~ at a level of an attribute
4 value in the document.

1 27. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein each definition is
2 listed in the ~~text~~ configuration file in a different language structure and
3 different schema from the document.

1 28. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the action
2 specified by a given definition is to remove an attribute from the
3 document.

1 29. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the action
2 specified by a given definition is to replace the identified potentially
3 harmful active content in the document with active content known to be
4 harmless.

1 30. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the action
2 specified by a given definition is to remove a tag from the document.

1 31. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising identifying potentially
2 harmful active content by finding a node in the data structure
3 representation of the one or more definitions that matches a node in the
4 data structure representation of the document.